Memo of phone conversation with Russ Trunzo, 4/26/70

Not having received what he had promised to send, I phoned Russ. He has mailed these things but they have not arrived. Having seen the page of the Chicago Journalism Review for 3/70 that HH sent me for other reasons, having to do with COUP, reprinted in a west-coast paper, I had reached added conclusions, that Skolnick was aware of the pending indictments predicted in this story, of police for the Hampton-Clark murders (meaning, most likely, Groth) from this publicity and decided to capitalize on it. Russ conculted his calendar and other records, with the result this is probably. I asked Russ if his friend at Columbia, whose name Bert Gall) I had forgotten, had known about the work he had done for me and he said from the very beginning. I had a hunch before phoning and from the old files learned that Russ' office in Chicago was in the same building as Columbia College.

Aside from knowing what I'd asked Russ to do for me and what Russ had done, Gall had arranged a meeting between Skolnick and Russ on 2/7/70, where Lita and a friend of Gall's were present. Sko,nick said he was having his class at Columbia look into politicial assassinations also. But his ignorance astounded Russ. Of all the people who had written in the field he knew but two names, Lane and Penn Jones. He had never heard of me and my books and work, of Epsetin, which shocked me, considering the publicity Epstein's work had,, of Popkin, etc. He then told Russ his class was looking into the Bolden matter. If so, they still knew nothing not public by the time he made his broadcasto after which Albright spoke to me and before which he had also spoken to DeMar.

Apparently after seeing the CJR piece or hearing of it, having heard the essence of the stroy from Russ 2/7 or being reminded of the details by Gall, Skolnicj phoned Russ 3/12-eight days before his broadcast only- to say his class had cleaned up the bolden matter and they now had the time to clean up the odds and ends left over on the Vellee matter, would Russ please send him these things by special delivery so he could put them to work helping me, etc. Russ did.

I told Russ the papers filed with the suit had to have come from him because of the mrakings on them and asked him if he had added any. He and the friend who had gotten the chicago police files both did. The friend put a large question mark on one of the papers as a means of asking Russ if this was what he wanted. Russ had written on one of the papers from the Archives I'd sent him that it had been declassified within the past six months. When Gall had sent him a copy of the Skolnick suit, he also send him copies of the papers Skolnick filed with his complaint, gotten from Gall. These included his own notation on this paper. Russ made copies ~~for~~ for Skolnick, keeping the copies I'd sent him. He promised to send me the copy I'd sent him on which he'd written his note and the copy sent ~~Skolnick~~ him by Gall.

Checking the complaint set, I saw that one of the FBI reports has the top removed. I presume it is this one on which Russ made the note. Also, in his suit and his publicity, Skolnick falselp alleged these documents had just been declassified.